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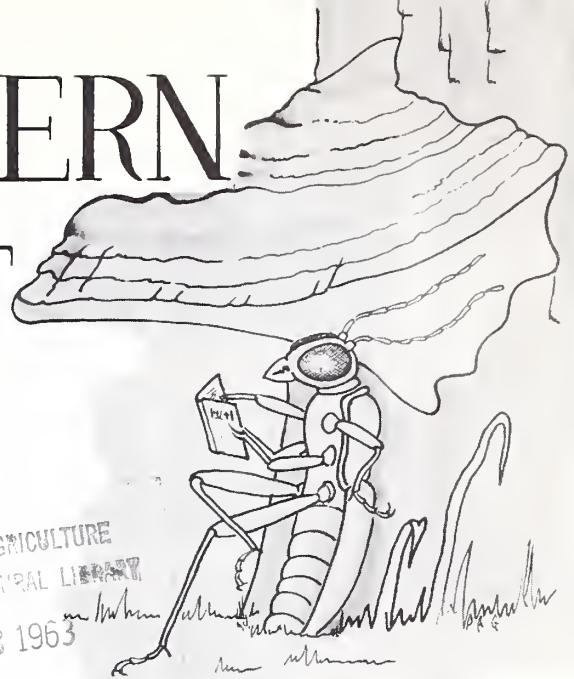
NORTHEASTERN FOREST PEST REPORTER

United States Department of Agriculture
Forest Service

Region Seven

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CURRENT SERIAL RECORDS



6816 Market St., Upper Darby, Pa.

Pest Control Zone Offices
Amherst, Mass.
Harrisonburg, Va.

NUMBER 2

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CONDITIONS IN BRIEF

On the basis of reports to date, an attempt is made here to indicate those pest problems which are most likely to necessitate control activity next year. This does not presume establishment of priorities, but rather is a judgment appraisal of local damage or buildups as related to the regional pest situation.

Infestations of spruce budworm and gypsy moth in certain areas indicate the need for control measures. The necessity for action against the Virginia pine sawfly and the pine looper is dependent upon final analysis of current surveys. General increase in damage by white pine weevil attack exemplifies the need for intensified spray control where quality timber is the management objective. Continuation of biological control measures for the balsam woolly aphid are programmed again for next year. The defoliators may require direct action programs, as indicated by population trends.

Diebacks and declines of various hardwood species present one of our most serious disease problems. Unfortunately, direct control measures are not available so that salvage operations are often recommended until research supplies the explanation and the means of control.

Conditions in Brief (Cont'd)

Forest managers are increasingly aware of the Fomes annosus hazard in pine plantations and accordingly have adopted stump treatment measures to reduce infection. The presence of the fungus in natural stands is increasing in frequency and may be particularly significant in view of current white pine conversion practices in the region.

STATUS OF FOREST INSECTS

SPRUCE BUDWORM (Choristoneura fumiferana)

Maine	Egg mass surveys indicate heavy defoliation of spruce and balsam fir in a large area from Chapman-Squapan area northwest to Portage Lake and northeast to Perham. Heavy feeding in the Chapman-Squapan section is causing some tree mortality. Aerial spraying is recommended in some of the infested area during 1963
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GYPSY MOTH (Porthetria dispar)

New Hampshire	Defoliation by the insect totalled 3,390 acres in 1962, 820 acres of which were 75 to 100% defoliated.
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Massachusetts	Aerial surveys indicate 150,000 to 200,000 acres of noticeable defoliation, primarily in western Massachusetts. Control in 1963 may be required.
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New York	Generally, the gypsy moth infestations have increased greatly in the areas previously reported and preliminary egg mass survey data indicate heavy defoliation in 1963, particularly in the Lake George area. Test spraying with bacterial insecticide "Thuricide" (<u>Bacillus thuringiensis</u>) was used and has shown great promise for control of the gypsy moth in the Schuylerville area.
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ELM SPANWORM (Ennomos subsignarius)

New York New Jersey	Many snow-white moths which were believed to be the Elm spanworm were observed in Bergen County, New Jersey and Rockland County, New York. Oaks were primarily defoliated.
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WHITE PINE WEEVIL (Pissodes strobi)

New England	Weevil damage appears to be heavier than normal over the entire area.
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New York Reports indicate a general increase in intensity. Heavy feeding on Norway spruce is noted in Sullivan County. There is very heavy feeding on white pine in the Lowville area and new infestations were found where the weevil had not occurred previously.

Pennsylvania Weeviling of white pine is high and increasing, particularly in the western counties, excepting the extreme southern and western tier of counties where damage is not serious. Christmas tree plantations of Norway spruce and Scotch pine are being heavily damaged.

Maryland Damage is on the increase in open-grown white pine, with light weeviling on white pine as an understory.

Virginia
West Virginia Reports indicate that current damage is light to very light, except for small stands, especially plantations where damage is heavy.

FALL WEBWORM (Hyphantria cunea)

Pennsylvania The webworm is reported plentiful in the western part of the State.

Virginia The size and frequency of infestations seems to increase with altitude. Defoliation and unsightly webbing was observed on a wide variety of hardwoods throughout the State.

West Virginia There are heavy infestations in Greenbrier and Pocahontas Counties, but scattered north of the Kanawha River in mountainous areas.

A LEAF MINING WEEVIL (Prionomerus calceatus)

Kentucky A heavy infestation of weevil on yellow-poplar over extensive areas in southeastern and central Kentucky was noted. There is no indication that the insect is spreading nor has its damage for 1963 been predicted.

VIRGINIA PINE SAWFLY (Neodiprion pratti pratti)

Maryland From aerial surveys it was noted that damage in 1962 increased in about half the infested area. One small area showed (90-100%) defoliation.

Virginia Over most of the infested part of the state defoliation in 1962 was very light.

Kentucky Sawfly damage to shortleaf and Virginia pines in northeastern Kentucky has not been positively identified as N. pratti pratti. Positive identification must wait until adults emerge.

LARCH SAWFLY (Pristiphora erichsonii)

New York In the Lowville area of Lewis County and in Columbia and Rensselaer Counties noticeable defoliation is reported. Scattered feeding on larch was also noted in the Gabriels-Rainbow Lake area of Franklin and Washington Counties.

Pennsylvania Very scattered sawfly infestations in northwestern Counties were observed.

RED-HEADED PINE SAWFLY (Neodiprion lecontei)

Pennsylvania Defoliation of Scotch, shortleaf and loblolly pines has been
Virginia reported but infestations are light and widely scattered.

YELLOW-HEADED SPRUCE SAWFLY (Pikonema alaskensis)

New York In several spruce plantings in St. Lawrence County this insect has caused up to 25% mortality.

A SAWFLY (not identified)

West Virginia This sawfly is reported seriously defoliating timber-size oaks over a large area in Boone County.

PINE LOOPER (Lambdina athasaria pellucidaria)

Massachusetts Large areas of pitch pine defoliation are expected on Cape Cod late this summer when the larvae reach maturity. Surveys this summer show that infestation has now spread over the entire Cape Cod area. Although only a small percentage of the trees die from defoliation, the appearance of so many browned trees is quite alarming. After aerial surveys are completed this fall definite plans can be laid for control operations in 1963.

EUROPEAN PINE SHOOT MOTH (Rhyacionia buoliana)

Pennsylvania Light damage to red pine is reported in Bradford County.

West Virginia This insect is reported heavy on red pine in the New Martinsville area.

NANTUCKET PINE SHOOT MOTH (Rhyacionia frustrana)

Virginia This perennial pest continues at a high level with loblolly, as well as other pines being attacked.

West Virginia Damage from this insect is reported "heavy as usual" on red pine in the New Martinsville area.

ZIMMERMAN PINE MOTH (Dioryctria zimmermani)

Rhode Island The U. S. National Museum has identified this insect as responsible for the feeding and boring on red pine branches on the Scituate Watershed. This same type of feeding on red pine has been noted elsewhere in New England also.

Pennsylvania Branches and shoots were attacked by this insect in a plantation of Scotch, red and Austrian pines in Perry County.

SOUTHERN PINE BEETLE (Dendroctonus frontalis)

Virginia This serious pest has now moved inland and is currently reported in King William, Charlotte, Accomac, Westmoreland and Louisa Counties. Although damage is not now severe, an increase in population could cause great damage.

LOCUST LEAF MINER (Xenochalepus dorsalis)

Pennsylvania The expected annual damage on black locust was observed in Butler and Allegheny Counties.

Virginia Damage is heavy near Luray, Staunton, Roanoke and the Northern part of the State.

West Virginia Serious defoliation was observed in the northwestern part of the State as well as in scattered locations in the central and western sections.

OAK TWIG PRUNER (Elaphidion villosum)

New Hampshire This insect is reported as numerous in central New Hampshire
New York and the eastern half of New York.

JAPANESE BEETLE (Popillia japonica)

Virginia Heavy feeding on sassafras, sycamore witch hazel, chestnut and black locust has been reported from much of the State.

West Virginia The beetle appeared more abundant than ever and remained active later in the season.

CONIFERS: MISCELLANEOUS

New Hampshire Excessive budding or brooming of red pine was observed in several areas of the State and indications are that a mite (not identified) is causing the damage. The July Pest Reporter listed the damage under forest disease (cause unknown).

STATUS OF FOREST DISEASES

HARDWOODS: DECLINES AND DIEBACKS

ASH DIEBACK (cause unknown) ^{1/}

Massachusetts The severity of this dieback continues unabated throughout
Connecticut New York, western Massachusetts and Connecticut. One area
New York on Onondago County, New York, was found to have 95% of the
 ash on a 300 acre woodlot affected.

Pennsylvania Dead and dying ash is now known to occur in McKean, Warren,
 Lycoming, Huntington, Somerset and Fayette Counties. In some
 counties the ash are reported to have been declining for more
 than five years. Groups of dead or dying trees are reported to
 be common in Huntington County. Salvage operations are in
 progress in heavily affected stands.

CHERRY GUMMOSIS and DIEBACK (cause unknown)

Pennsylvania Flagging and branch dieback, associated with gummosis, has been
 observed in Elk, Blair, Indiana, Somerset, and northern Cambria
 Counties. Small branches with reddened dead leaves are quite
 conspicuous, occurring most frequently in the tree tops. There
 are also reports of small trees dying, with these conditions in
 evidence. Globes of gum, 1-4 cm. in diameter are exuded
 through small lesions on these "flagged" branches. This
 condition is being studied in an attempt to discover the cause.

^{1/} Cause, when known, is listed after each disease as a reference aid but does not infer that the pathogen is the disease.

MAPLE DECLINE (cause unknown)

New York This condition has been observed extensively on hard maple in Delaware, Otsego, Lewis and Jefferson Counties. A similar condition on soft maple is occurring in Franklin and Essex Counties and near the City of Albany.

BEECH DIEBACK (cause unknown)

New York Indications are that this disease of beech is more severe this year than in previous years. It has been seen in counties south of a line from the Adirondacks to the Finger Lakes.

HARDWOODS: CANKERS

MAPLE CANKER (cause unknown)

West Virginia This disease was noted on sugar maple in Greenbrier and Nicholas Counties.

HARDWOODS: WILTS

OAK WILT (Ceratocystis fagacearum)

Virginia Thirty-eight wilted trees were treated on the George Washington National Forest, nineteen of which were damaged during logging on a timber sale area. Oak wilt is also reported on the Jefferson National Forest.

West Virginia Treatment of wilted trees (1,976 August 17) is comparable to the same period in 1961.

HARDWOODS: MISCELLANEOUS

Pennsylvania Hypoxylon canker of aspen is distributed generally in the north-central counties, and is especially prevalent on burned-over lands.

West Virginia Botryodiplodia (Diplodia) twig canker of chestnut oak is quite conspicuous throughout Grant and Pendleton Counties.

CONIFERS: ROOT DISEASES

ANNOSUS ROOT ROT (Fomes annosus)

- New York Annosus root rot was found on Jack and Scotch pine and Norway spruce in Letchworth State Park.
- Maryland Fomes annosus has been reported in several red pine plantations in Garrett County.
- Virginia This disease has again been found in additional natural pine stands. Scattered dead trees were observed in a thrifty 90-year-old white pine stand in Augusta County and in a similar situation in Botetourt County. Annosus root rot, heretofore considered a plantation problem, is being found more and more in natural stands- (keep on the lookout). Some mortality was reported from a 6-year-old loblolly pine plantation in Powhatan County.
- Kentucky An infection center in a 25-year-old loblolly pine plantation is reported from Graves County. The fungus was found fruiting on slash and a root-damaged, creosoted stump in a white pine plantation in Jackson County.

RED BROWN BUTT ROT (Polyporus schweinitzii)

- Virginia This fungus causing a brown cubical root and butt rot of conifers can also be quite serious in plantations. Last year's fruiting bodies were found associated with dead roots in a white pine plantation in Rockingham County. The annual conks of the fungus, found on or near the root collar or decayed roots, develop in the late summer or fall during moist weather.

LITTLELEAF (Phytophthora cinnamomi - complex)

- Virginia Symptoms of littleleaf are reported again from Fluvanna, Louisa and Spotsylvania Counties. Infection centers ranged in size from one tree to twenty acres.

CONIFERS: HEART ROT

RED RING ROT (Fomes pini)

- Virginia Approximately 50% of the volume of an overmature white pine stand was lost to Fomes pini in Shenandoah County. Reducing the rotation of white pine to 80 years in the southern Appalachians could minimize this problem.

CONIFERS: STEM RUSTS

WHITE PINE BLISTER RUST (Cronartium ribicola)

Maine New Hampshire Vermont Massachusetts New York	Infection on ribes leaves was quite erratic throughout New England and New York. Dry weather in many sections caused ribes leaves to curl and prematurely drop. This condition also curtailed the development of tella.
Pennsylvania	Blister rust infection is very light on ribes in southern Pennsylvania. One area of skunk currants at Thornhurst in Lackawanna County showed medium to heavy infection.
Maryland	Very few new cankers have been found on protected areas in Garrett County. Heavy ribes infection has been observed.
Virginia	Heavy blister rust infection was found on ribes leaves near Vanderpool in Highland County.
West Virginia	In Mercer County four new white pine infection areas were located during initial ribes eradication.

CONIFERS: FOLIAGE DISEASES

WHITE PINE NEEDLE BLIGHT (cause unknown)

New Hampshire Massachusetts	Considerable damage to mature pine is occurring in southeast Merrimack County, New Hampshire. Infected white pine have been found throughout the white pine region of Massachusetts, with occasional mortality.
Maryland	Browning of needles is reported from the Bel Air area. Bark aphid, needle cast, drought, or a combination of these has been suggested as the causal agent.

NEEDLE CAST (Hypoderma lethale)

Virginia	Heavy needle cast was noted on white pine in the Irish Gap area of the Blue Ridge Parkway. Needle cast, caused by <u>Hypoderma lethale</u> , is extensive throughout Bath and Highland Counties, causing 50 to 100% defoliation of older needles.
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EMERGENCE TIP BURN (ozone injury)

Virginia This browning of about one-half the length of newly emerging white pine needles is believed to be the result of excess oxidants (ozone) or industrial fumes in the air, and is reported in Dillwyn, Buckingham, Orange, Culpeper and Pittsylvania Counties.

CONIFERS: MISCELLANEOUS

West Virginia Cytospora canker of red spruce is conspicuous in the higher elevations of Grant County.

FALSE BLISTER RUST CANKER (cause unknown)

New York No change has been noted in this problem on the Tug Hill area. One investigator feels this problem may be caused by ants, but because of their abundance, the classic ant injury pattern is obscured. The fungal invaders of cankered trees are being studied.